

minds of the Middle Ages. But, in order to subdue the tough world of material interests, it is necessary to have at least so much sympathy with its tortuous ways as is needed to understand them. The Prince of Darkness has a right to a courteous hearing and a fair trial, and those who will not give him his due are wont to find that, in the long run, he turns the tables by taking his due and something over. Common sense and a respect for realities are not less graces of the spirit than moral zeal. The paroxysms of virtuous fury, with which the children of light denounced each new victory of economic enterprise as yet another stratagem of Mammon, disabled them for the staff-work of their campaign, which needs a cool head as well as a stout heart. Their obstinate refusal to revise old formulae in the light of new facts exposed them helpless to a counter-attack, in which the whole fabric of their philosophy, truth and fantasy alike, was overwhelmed together. They despised knowledge, and knowledge destroyed them.

Few can contemplate without a sense of exhilaration the splendid achievements of practical energy and technical skill, which, from the latter part of the seventeenth century, were transforming the face of material civilization, and of which England was the daring, if "not too scrupulous, pioneer. If, however, economic ambitions are good servants, they are bad

masters.  
Harnessed to a social purpose, they will  
turn the mill  
and grind the corn. But the question, to  
what end the  
wheels revolve, still remains; and on that  
question the  
naive and uncritical worship of economic  
power, which  
is the mood of unreason too often  
engendered in those  
whom that new Leviathan has hypnotized by  
its spell,  
throws no light. Its result is not seldom a  
world in  
which men command a mechanism that  
they cannot  
fully use, and an organization which has  
every perfection  
except that of motion.

*Er nennt's Vernunft und braucht's allein,  
Nur tierischer als jedes Tier zu sein.*